

THE MESSENGER

a publication of the wv state association of free will baptists
www.wvfwb.org | the.messenger@wvfwb.org



SUMMER 2011
VOLUME 11 NUMBER 2

POWER FROM THE ROCK

WV STATE MEETING | JUNE 10 - 11
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION | JULY 17 - 20

A Fine Farewell

Dr. Jim Cox submitted his letter of resignation to the Executive Committee, which will become effective on June 30, 2011. Bro. Jim has been our Promotional Director for the past 9 years and has done a wonderful job. Under his leadership the State has moved forward in many areas of the Lord's work. During his time:



- The Promotional Director's job has become a full time position.
- The State has enjoyed several Sunday school seminars.
- Several Bible Institutes have been started around the state.
- A Disaster Response Committee has been formed.
- Greater emphasis has been placed on Co-op giving and every church has received a DVD explaining the Co-op plan of giving. Co-op giving has increased.
- Both youth & seniors have benefited from mission trips.
- He has taught Parliamentary Law seminars to ministers.
- He facilitated several men's conferences.
- Our ministers have benefited from several preaching seminars around the state.
- Several leadership seminars with speakers from our National Association have been facilitated by Bro. Jim.
- Churches all around the state have been blessed with the wonderful preaching of Bro. Jim.
- Some churches have benefited from planning sessions led by Bro. Jim.
- Bro. Jim and his wife, Diana, have been on two mission trips to Guyana. He was the team leader in 2010, taking a group of six people from the McCorkle Church to Guyana for two weeks.
- Our State Paper, "The Messenger," has been edited and published by Bro. and Sis. Cox for the past three years.
- Bro. Jim has represented Randall House as part of his duties since the state had to give up the distribution of Sunday school literature.
- The Promotional Director has represented our state at the National Association in July and the National Leadership Conference in December for the past nine years.

It has been a great privilege to labor with Bro. Jim and he will be missed as the Promotional Director but, as the bible says in Hebrews 6:10, "*For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*"

Bro. Jim is resigning from the Promotional Director's job but certainly not from the work of the Lord. He will continue to use his God-given abilities for the work of the Kingdom until the Lord says "*Well Done Thy Good and Faithful Servant.*"

West Virginia State Promotional Director Search

The Executive Committee is currently accepting resumes for the position of State Promotional Director.

Resumes may be sent to:

Earl White
93 Stokes Street
Williamson, WV 25661

You may also email your resume to: Earl White at earlwhite@suddenlink.net

A Life of Service



As Sister Alice begins her new journey with the Lord, we want to express our thankfulness for her many years of service. The following is a brief overview of her life as a missionary.

CONVERSION

At the age of 15, Alice gave her heart to the Lord. Only a few months later the Lord spoke to her through a missionary message and she answered the call to missionary service.

EARLY MINISTRY

Alice taught Sunday school and served as church clerk in her home church. During her years in Bible college she ministered in a hospital and nursing home, served as prayer captain, society chaplain, and later as a student missionary to Cote d'Ivoire. She worked for a Christian doctor for 10 years prior to her ministry in Cote d'Ivoire.

Following language study in France, Alice went to the medical station at Doropo where she taught Sunday school, worked with the children's choir, taught nutrition classes, and helped in vacation Bible school, etc. She also helped in the medical ministry as the need arose.

Alice began her second term of service in Agnibilékrou in 1982. She has taught Sunday school, conducted VBS, and held weekly Bible classes in the primary schools in the area. Alice also taught seminars on nutrition, health and hygiene, child evangelism, teacher training, etc. Other activities included women's classes

and Bible studies. She worked with Norman and Bessie Richards and Darrel and Lila Nichols to expand the children's ministries to surrounding villages.

In 1995 Pastor Kambou broadened her ministry further to include teaching all new convert and baptism classes for girls and women. She also assisted him in counseling sessions. Alice served as secretary for both the pastor and the Cote d'Ivoire field council. She helped to organize a national women's organization and served as its treasurer.

When she returned to the field in 1999, Pastor Kambou requested she work part-time in the foyer ministry, assist him in organization of departments within the church and in training of national workers to fill all teaching and church staff (clerk, treasurer, etc.) positions. She also worked to set up his office and library. In addition to these responsibilities, Alice taught Bible clubs in the public schools and participated in village outreach ministries.



Alice began working in Community Health Evangelism with the Eagletons and the Andersons in March 2002. In their eight months of working together, much was accomplished in getting the CHE program underway at Bouna and Gouméré. She was scheduled to move from Agnibilékrou to Bouna to teach at least two trimesters at the Bible Institute. However, the civil war began and all Free Will Baptist missionaries left Côte d'Ivoire in October 2002.

Sister Alice accomplished much more for the Lord. There is not enough space in our State Paper to publish her lifelong work in Africa. However, one thing is for certain...We are thankful for her years of service and we look forward to her working in her home state of West Virginia.

Excerpts used by permission from International Missions: www.fwbgo.com.

Côte d'Ivoire Quick stats

- Population: 17.7 million
- Land Area: 322,000 Square Kilometers
- Language: French, with 60 native dialects
- Main Religions: Islam 38%, Animism 30%, 8.7% Evangelical

News from the field

New Life Free Will Baptist Church; Glenville, WV

An Update From Home Missions, Rev. Kenneth & Shirley Cooper

Hello to all our friends in West Virginia. We have gone from cold weather, snow and icy roads to the flu season. Needless to say, our attendance is low. Spring, then summer, then we say "hope how soon fall is here," but we still need to be about our Fathers business and work till Jesus comes.

We are inviting people to come and join us at New Life Free Will Baptist Church. We have a lot to offer in the way of teaching the Bible and leading people to the Lord. As you may already know, Kenneth ruptured and tore tendons and ligaments in his rotor cuff and bicep in his right arm. He is taking therapy at Glenville State College; we are hoping this will help so he won't have to have surgery. Although his injury has slowed the progress in the work on the class rooms, he won't let this stop him.

At New Life, we have several areas of need. We would love for your church to plan a mission project this summer to help us. Our areas of need are: construction, painting, and visitation. We also have a small metal storage building to put up. Please feel free

to come visit us if you have time to spare. You may contact us at 304.462.5945 or email hougie42@yahoo.com We will have something for you to do even if it's cooking, making sandwiches, or carrying water and drinks to the workers. Keep this in mind and may God bless you for your efforts.

We have two places we go to for supplies that we, in turn, give to people in our church and community with low to no income. Although we are currently too small for a food pantry, we try to help the needy by giving away shoes, clothing and cleaning supplies. Sometimes we will get school supplies, toys, and gifts for the children around Christmas.

A friend of ours lost her home in a fire in October and her broken washer forced her to drive over 10 miles to the laundry mat. I asked the storehouse for one and was able to help my friend in need. My prayer is to be able to help win the lost through Gods love and kindness. Please continue to pray for us as we labor for Him!



The Home Missions Department exists to exalt Jesus Christ and fulfill the Great Commission by using the efforts of missionaries and chaplains to communicate the gospel, make disciples, and plant new churches in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. territories, such as the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

West Virginia Student on E-Team Mission



Walter Hernandez Jr. from Kearneysville, WV has been selected by the NAFWB International Missions to participate in the E-Team 2011 in Action campaign. E-TEAM is a life-changing, short-term summer missions experience for students who have just completed grades 10, 11, or 12. The program provides a week of intensive training and two weeks of hands-on cross-cultural experience where students learn from and serve with Free Will Baptist missionaries. Groups consist of seven to nine students led by an adult couple. Destinations have included Japan, France, St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Chicago, Mexico, Spain, Uruguay, Panama, Brazil, and Cuba.

Walter attends both Heritage FWB and Roca Iglesia churches in the Eastern Panhandle Conference, and is instrumental in the youth ministries at both churches. He is a graduating senior at Musselman High School and is currently enrolled to attend Potomac State WV University in the fall semester. Walter will be traveling with the E-TEAM to Panama in June.

If you would like to financially support Walter with his mission trip to Panama, mail contributions to Heritage FWB, PO Box 590; Inwood, WV 25428. Contributions can also be given directly to the E-Team website: <http://www.fwbgo.com/etteam/whernandez/>

Spring Report From Roca de Salvación



I have read recently that following a missionary can be like following the stock market. Occasionally, there are some really tough months. As a general rule, however, you will see a bounce back. That seems to describe our situation over the last three months which have been really tough. We have seen how Satan wants to destroy Gods Church.

We are continuing to average in the mid-40s in our services. We hope to continue to grow. The days are warmer and it's time to reach out to the community to those that don't know the Lord.

During the month of April, our Hispanic Ministry had the privilege to be part of the Bible, Music, and Arts Festival competitions. Our youth competed in the following categories: Bible Bowl Grades 10-12, Bible Memorization Grades 3rd & 5th, New ministries, and Human Videos. We are proud of our youth and excited to see that they advanced to the nationals to compete in July. It's a joy and privilege to have a group of teens enthusiastic to work. It's exciting to see how they are willing to sacrifice their free time to study the word and be a positive influence to those who are not yet well grounded in the word of God.

As you have already seen, one of our youth, Walter Hernandez, Jr, will be participating as a missionary in June by traveling with the E-Team to Panama. Please remember him in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for our ministry and our youth. Thank You and God Bless!

Prayer Requests

- *Pray that we will reach many people with the gospel though summer outreach.*
- *Pray that children and their families will be reached for the Lord.*
- *Pray for the church in good and bad times to become more like God.*

Your Hispanic Missionaries serving in the Eastern Panhandle,

Josue, Cristina, Brianna, Michelle, and Leah Rivera



WEST VIRGINIA WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST

RETREAT | SEPTEMBER 9 - 10, 2011 | CENTRAL FREE WILL BAPTIST | HUNTINGTON, WV

THEME: "DRY, CRACKED SOULS" AND "TREASURES IN EARTHEN JUGS"

MISSION PROJECT: OFFERING FOR BEREIA MINISTRIES IN MEXICO

SPEAKER: KYLA ROWLAND

NEWS around the state

Nolan Christian Academy

Exciting things are happening at Nolan Christian Academy! The children recently celebrated Dr. Suess week in which they participated in week-long contests. Dalton Craven won in two of the categories: Crazy Hair Day and Crazy Hat Day. Lacie White won on Crazy Sock Day. The children also participated in the Young Writers Contest with the Mingo County Schools. The judges for the contest were Sam Pauley, Danny Crum and Elwynn Crum. Lacie White had the winning story. The school is currently preparing for the county Science Fair and they are learning poems for the county Reading Festival. Enrollment is now open for anyone interested in sending their child/children to NCA next fall. For more information, please call the school at 304-235-2919 or visit www.nolanfwbchurch.org.

Sophia Celebrates Missions



Sam McVay - Clint Morgan - Alice Smith - Jeff Bennett - Vicki Sturgill - Jim Sturgill

During its March for Missions Revival, Sophia Church welcomed leaders from all over the world. Beginning with an emphasis on local missions, Pastor Bobby Carter focused on local outreach. As the week progressed, Earl White, Al Whitt, Curtis Hawks, and Clint Morgan emphasized the importance of reaching the world. "The revival's focus started with an emphasis on local outreach and expanded to global missions," said Jim Sturgill, retired missionary to Brazil. Sister Alice Smith, retiring missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, and Jeff Bennett, former Go10 Regional Coordinator, also gave reports.

Auxiliary Elects Officers



At its April meeting held at Sophia Free Will Baptist, the Beckley Conference Ladies Auxiliary elected new officers:

President: Consuelo Coulter
Vice President: Linda Grimes
Secretary: Ann Tolliver
Treasurer: Aretta Harvey

News From the Panhandle

The Eastern Panhandle Conference met Friday night, May 13, at Heritage FWB. in Inwood, WV. Brother Josue Rivera brought the evening message with Brother Walter Hernandez Sr. as his interpreter. Most notable news to date: Brother Jon McNay made Assistant Pastor at Heritage, Grace Church is working on building plans, and the Eastern Panhandle Conference is working out the details of holding their first ever walk-a-thon, more details to follow. Next meeting will be August 12 at Victory FWB in Halltown, WV.

Pastor Craig Heironimus and Grace Fellowship Church would like to greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The church is in the first process of the building stage and is currently looking for financial assistance for the building. The church is praying that the Lord will allow them to grow throughout the year. Pastor Heironimus said "I want to see this church building come together since we have so many older congregation members who have put valuable time and money into this church. I would like to see their faces when they can finally walk into a church building instead of a converted doublewide trailer." He went on to say, "the devil is truly fighting us right now but we know that the Lord is our strength and He will see us through. We want to say thanks and hello to all of the saints around West Virginia. Please continue to pray for us."

Beckley: August 5 & 6

Brotherhood: July 9

Christian Fellowship: July 23

Eastern Panhandle: August 13

Elk River: August 20

Fayette: July 23

Freedom: October 15

Greenbrier County: October 8

Greenbrier Nicholas: July 23

Guyan Valley: August 20

Huff Creek: August 20

Kanawha: August 19 & 20

Liberty: August 26 & 27

Logan: August 6

Mingo #1: September 10

Trinity: August 5 & 6

Tug River: August 13

Unity: July 23

Upper Ohio Valley: July 23

Wayne: August 13

Wyoming: August 5 & 6

upcoming conference dates

Upper Ohio Valley Missions Revival By Keith Hadley, Clerk

The Upper Ohio Valley Conference hosted their annual March for Missions Revival. All conference churches participated, and the following churches joined in with us by hosting one night's service at their respective churches: Emmanuel Fellowship, Hope FWB, New Life FWB, and Veto Gospel Tabernacle. Speakers were: Rev. Allan Whitt, Rev. Rick Bowling, Rev. Ricky Holstein, Rev. Doug Burdette, Rev. Bert Hall, and Rev. Josue Rivera. They all did an excellent job, and we thank them for traveling so far to preach, and helping us to raise over \$14,940.00 for Missions.

Brother Rick Bowling, from the National Association in Nashville, who is serving as Director of Hispanic Ministries in the USA, was the featured speaker. Brother Rick was with us for five nights. During Brother Rick's



stay, it was discovered that his laptop computer was broken and he was doing his reports the old fashioned way, hand written! With financial restraints at the national level, there was nothing budgeted to purchase a replacement. Brother Bud Corbin who was hosting Brother Rick for the week, and also his old Bible College class mate, put out the word secretly that Brother Rick needed a new computer. He asked if anyone would

like to donate money to help towards the purchase of a new laptop. Well, as usual, God's people rose to the occasion and sufficient funds were collected to buy a 17" HP laptop, software, and computer case.

On Brother Rick's last night of revival, he was told we had heard his computer was broken and that we had collected \$25.00 to replace it. Rick was virtually speechless when he was presented a Hillbilly Computer. Actually it was a red Etch-O-Sketch with a power cord taped to it, and a color desktop picture attached to the screen. After his priceless dumbfounded look, he thanked us and said he would certainly use it. As Brother Rick was being seated, he was called back and presented his new laptop. He was blessed and thanked everyone for their gift of love. He stated that no one had ever done anything like this for him. Since later corresponding with Brother Rick, he said his work is now much easier and he is having fun showing off his red hillbilly computer too.

Ministry at Meadowbrook Church



Rev. Zach Young began his pastorate at Meadowbrook Free Will Baptist Church on March 1, 2011. "Before I started pastoring Meadowbrook, the church was on the verge of closing the doors," said Young. "I know God has big plans for the Meadowbrook Church." At 19 years old, Young said he feels God sent him to Meadowbrook.

Meadowbrook Church held a revival in April with Rev. Greg Stover. Please pray for the continued success of this ministry.

WV Bible, Music, & Arts Festival



Pastor Mike Smith and the Parsley Bottom Free Will Baptist Church hosted the West Virginia Bible, Music, & Arts Festival in April. With nearly 200 in attendance, this year's event was a great success. Students from West Virginia and parts of Kentucky competed in events such as vocal ensemble, instrumental solo, Bible memorization, Bible Sword Drill, Bible Millionaire, Bible Bowl, and many others. Check out the photos on our website at: www.wvfwb.org.

Plan to participate next year at McCorkle Free Will Baptist Church in Sod, WV.

Free Will Baptist Bible College



The entire month of June is Volunteer Month at FWBBC.

If you, your family, your youth group or senior saints would like information on arrangements for volunteers, please call 615-844-5000 or email Sandy Goodfellow at alex@fwbbc.edu

A Christian community of faith and learning

Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptists

Central Free Will Baptist | Huntington, WV | June 10 - 11

Friday, June 10, 2011

- 9:30 Welcome by Host Pastor
9:35 Moderator's Challenge
9:40 Recognition of Visitors
9:45 Executive Board Report of Conference Letters
9:50 Treasurer's Report
9:55 Election of Committees
—Business Committee – 5 Members: 3 Ministers/ 2 Deacons
—Program Placement Committee – 7 Members: 2 Ministers/1 Deacon/ 4 Delegates
—Executive Committee – 2 Members at Large from Executive Board
—Audit Committee – 5 Members
—Nominating Committee – 5 Ordained Ministers
10:10 Group Session/Fellowship. Possible Committee time.
11:10 Devotional – Rev. Roger Tolliver
Speaker – Rev. Okey Tolliver (suggested scripture, Psalms 61:2)
12:15 Lunch

Friday Afternoon Session

- 1:15 Devotional – Deacon Jim Hutchison (suggested scripture, 1 Peter 2:8)
Moderator calls session to order
1:30 Obituary Report
1:40 Mission Board recognition of Churches and Plaque presentations
2:10 Partial Business Committee Report
2:25 State Association Executive Board Report
Adjournment

Friday Night Worship

- 7:00 Devotional – Rev. Earl Brewer
Offering for Missions
Speaker – Rev. Jackie Grimmitt (suggested scripture, Matthew 16:18)
Recognition of ordained Ministers and Deacons with thirty years or more combined service

Can't make it to the Association? Watch our LIVE video webcasts at <http://www.wvfwb.org>

Services being webcasted: Friday morning at 11:00am; Friday evening at 7:00pm; Saturday morning at 11:00am



Pastor Steve Williams and the Central Free Will Baptist Church, Huntington, WV, welcome you to the 66th annual session of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptists. The theme for 2011 is "Power From the Rock." The dates of the state meeting are June 10 - 11.

For more details, please visit our website at: www.wvfwb.org

Saturday Morning, June 11, 2011

- 7:30 Ministers, Deacons, and Wives Appreciation Breakfast at Host Church
- 9:00 Devotional – Rev. Earl White (suggested scripture, Exodus 32:22)
- 9:10 Moderator calls session to order
- 9:15 Hand of Fellowship
- 9:25 National Reports
 - Executive Office Reports
 - Home Missions Report
 - International Missions Report
 - National Master’s Men Report
 - National Women’s’ Auxiliary Report
 - Children’s Homes Reports
 - College Reports
 - Randall House
 - Berea Ministries
 - Board of Retirement
 - FWB Foundation
- 10:00 Digest of Reports / question and answer period
- 10:10 Initial Nominating Committee Report
- 10:20 Partial Business Committee Report
- 10:35 Fellowship

Adjournment for Morning Worship

Devotional – Rev. Kit Meade

Speaker – Guest from National Association (suggested scripture, Matthew 7:24)

12:00 Lunch

Saturday Afternoon Session

- 1:15 Devotional – Rev. Mike Smith (suggested scripture, 2 Samuel 22:2)
- 1:25 Moderator calls session to order
- 1:30 Program Placement Committee Report
- 1:35 Final Business Committee Report
- Adjournment

Directions to Central Church

From Charleston, take I-64 West to Exit #11. Turn right on Hal Greer Blvd continue to 6th Avenue and turn left. Go to 5th Street and the church will be on the corner of 5th Street and 6th Avenue.



NEWS

around the nation

Seventy-Fifth Annual Convention of the National Association

Free Will Baptist National Convention | Charlotte, NC | July 17-20, 2011



In July 2011, Free Will Baptists will convene for the 75th annual convention in the southern metropolis of Charlotte, North Carolina. Charlotte received the nickname “Queen City” in honor of the wife of King George III. Resting along the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, Charlotte is located 15 minutes from the South Carolina border in the south central part of the state. It is the 18th largest city in the United States with a population of more than 750,000. The city hosts more than 700 places of worship, prompting another nickname: “City of Churches.” Charlotte is also home to the Carolina Panthers professional football team.

Between the hustle and bustle of competition events, seminars, and meetings, Charlotte offers many opportunities for visiting Free Will Baptists. The Billy Graham Library gives visitors a glimpse into the life of the well-known American evangelist, and admission is free. For racing fans, the newly opened NASCAR Hall of Fame honors the history and heritage of NASCAR. Carowinds, an amusement park near Charlotte, thrills guests with rides, shows, and attractions the whole family can enjoy. Discovery Place, a science museum and IMAX Dome theater, will amaze visitors with larger-than-life displays.

To see all Charlotte has to offer, various forms of public transit are available including the CATS Bus Service. From the Charlotte Trolley, an educational tour, and the free Gold Rush historic trolley to the LYNX Light Rail system, there are many opportunities see the city. Many fast-food restaurants are scattered across downtown Charlotte, making meals convenient for church groups on the go.

Some will travel to Charlotte for the competitive activities or worship services; others for meetings, convention business, and seminars; and more just to experience a national convention of Free Will Baptists. However, all will enjoy the opportunity to explore a city filled with history, entertainment, and excitement.

Reprinted by permission from ONE Magazine: www.onemag.org.

A New Initiative for Young Adult Leaders



The national convention is for leaders. Leaders in respective districts, states, and on the national level.
Leaders who are women -- Leaders who are men -- Leaders who are teens.

But what about leaders who are young adults?

That’s where FWB21 comes in. FWB21 is a new initiative whose purpose is to “build Free Will Baptist twentysomething leaders.”

FWB21 wants to build twentysomething leaders through:

1. An exclusive after-service panel on Monday night (9 PM) at this year’s convention in Charlotte
2. A unique line of seminars at the 2011 national convention
3. FWB21.com—a collaborative blog written by young adult Free Will Baptist leaders

If you’re a young adult who wants to make a difference in the movement of Free Will Baptists for the kingdom of God, FWB21 is for you!

JESUS IS ... MY EVERYTHING!

FAYETTE YOUTH CAMP 2011



Guest Speakers Include:

Adam Trzicak

Seth Dickens

Eric Dangerfield

Alan Terry

Jeff Bennett

Missionary Alice Smith

Activity Director - Erin Terry

MUSIC BY REDEEMED

During Teen Camp - June 20-22

Morning Bible classes each day | Church services nightly at 7:00 pm

Special Junior Outing on Friday, June 17

Special Teen Outing on Thursday, June 23

All churches are invited to join us for all evening services, especially our special outdoor church service around the bonfire on Wednesday, June 22, at 7:00 pm. Sister Alice Smith, retiring missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, will be speaking.

Fayette Conference youth camp

Junior Camp
June 15 - 17

Teen Camp
June 20 - 24

Registration Fee: \$45
Registration begins at 7:30 am

For More Info: Tammy Terry - (304) 575-1521 | Janie Dickens - (304) 731-9695 | Jeff Bennett - (304) 673-6959

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Dr. James H. Cox, Editor
Diana Cox, Design Editor
Jeff Bennett, Design Editor

jimdianac4@suddenlink.net
the.messenger@wvfwb.org

304-767-8314 / 304-562-6808



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